

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the drawings, specification, and claims 1, 6-8, and 11-12 are amended. No new matter is presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the foregoing amended claims, amended drawings and specification are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2 and 4-14 are pending. Reconsideration is requested.

Background

An Amendment, including a Substitute Specification, was filed March 29, 2005 (Amendment 1) in response to the Office Action mailed October 29, 2004 (previous Action).

An in-person interview was conducted between the Applicants' representative and the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor. During the interview, the Examiner's supervisor indicated that the specification appeared to be satisfactory and that the Examiner would address any specifics that needed to be further addressed. Applicants' representative also discussed proposed changes to the drawings to address the Examiner's objections to the same. The Examiner indicated such changes were acceptable and would overcome the objections to the same.

An Amendment After Final Rejection, Request For Reconsideration, And Statement On Substance Of Interview was filed on November 28, 2005 (Amendment 2). An Advisory Action was mailed on December 9, 2005 indicating that Amendment 2 would not be entered.

This Preliminary Amendment further addresses concerns raised by the Examiner in the Advisory Action.

OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS

On pages 3-4 of the Action, the Examiner contends that features of transaction slip data document, management data document, data extracting unit, transaction slip data extracting unit, receiving unit, and converting unit must be shown.

FIG. 3 is amended herein to illustrate a "data/transaction slip data extracting unit 202" and paragraph [0024] is amended accordingly. FIG. 7 is amended herein to illustrate a "converting unit 16c," and paragraph [0037] is amended accordingly. FIG. 16 is amended herein to illustrate a "receiving unit 1599" and paragraph [0062], amended accordingly.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that neither the phrases "transaction slip document" nor the "management data document" are recited in any claim, and therefore the Examiner's objection that the phrases are not illustrated in the Figures is unfounded.

In addition on pages 12-13 of the Response to Arguments, the Examiner mistakenly

contends:

(t)he Examiner also acknowledges that applicant now limits his invention to storing data only in temporary storage and that the data is lost under certain circumstances, since RAM, Random Access Memory, is the computer's primary workspace and requires power to maintain its content and therefore any running programs and all the data they currently reference are lost without power.³ Concerning ROM, please see rejection under first paragraph of 35 USC 112.

(Emphasis added).

As discussed during the in-person interview, Applicants submit that Applicants have not so limited the invention to storing data only in temporary storage, as the Examiner mistakenly contends. Rather, a permanent storage is described and illustrated.

Applicants point out that paragraph [0062] of the specification describes FIG. 16 as illustrating:

(a) CPU 1502 is connected to a ROM 1503, a RAM 1504, a communication interface 1505, a recording device 1508, a record medium reading device 1509, and an inputting/outputting device 1511. Management data, transaction slip data, conversion table, transfer destination table, and so forth are stored to the recording device 1508 such as a hard disk.

(Emphasis added).

That is, a permanent storage hard disk is illustrated in FIG. 16 as recording device 1508. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is requested.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

On pages 4-5 of the Action, the Examiner objects to the specification under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Paragraph [0060] is amended herein to address the Examiner's concerns regarding DTDs.

As discussed during the in-person interview, Applicants submit that that the Substitute Specification filed in the previous Amendment both clearly and exactly made distinctions between data. Further, Applicants submit that the amendments herein further address any and all of the Examiner's concerns that the Examiner has made known in the Office Action and Advisory Action.

Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 1, 6, 7, AND 11

The Examiner objects to claims 1, 6, 7, and 11 contending the term "format" is confusing.

Claims 1, 6, 7, and 11, are amended herein, to recite, using claim 1 as an example, "a converting unit converting a first format of the received transaction slip data into a second format

based on a transmission destination (emphasis added)."

Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The Examiner rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph indicating that claim 1 refers to a storing unit for storing data that was extracted by the data extracting unit, and that "Applicant now defines the storing unit as RAM and ROM. . . Applicant does not explain how he can store temporary data after the chip is programmed at the factory."

Applicants point out that paragraph [0062] of the specification describes FIG. 16 as illustrating

(a) CPU 1502 is connected to a ROM 1503, a RAM 1504, a communication interface 1505, a recording device 1508, a record medium reading device 1509, and an inputting/outputting device 1511. Management data, transaction slip data, conversion table, transfer destination table, and so forth are stored to the recording device 1508 such as a hard disk.

(Emphasis added).

That is, a permanent storage hard disk is illustrated in FIG. 16 as recording device 1508. Applicants submit that claim 1 complies with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and request the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 8 AND 12 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH (AND OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 8 AND 12)

The Examiner rejects claims 8 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and contends that "changing structure information" is not discussed in the specification in paragraphs [0057]-[0060]. (Action at page 14). On page 14 of the current Office Action, the Examiner indicates that "objections to claims 8 and 12 are maintained. See previous Office Action."

As discussed during the in-person interview, paragraphs [0057]-[0060] of the Substitute Specification discuss in detail changing of structure information. Further, paragraph [0060] is amended herein to indicate that "when XML is used, the types of information that are to be considered as management data can be easily changed (emphasis added)."

Claims 8 and 12 are amended herein to recite using claim 8, as an example, "changing the structure data of a document to be considered including the management data (emphasis added).

Applicants submit that claims 8 and 12, as amended, comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and request rejection (and objection) to claims 8 and 12 be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-2 AND 4-14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

On pages 7 and 8 of the action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-2 and 4-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph contending in part that the term "data" and the phrases "tailoring functions without tailoring functions of servers of the order issuer or the order acceptor are indefinite."

Claims 1, 6-8, and 11-12 are amended herein to address the Examiner's concerns. Independent claim 1, for example, is amended herein to recite "extracting structure data as a search item of the document including transaction slip data therefrom (emphasis added)."

Applicants submit that claims 1-2 and 4-14 comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and rejects the rejection be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-2 AND 4-14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER CHANG (U.S.P. 6,584,459)

Claims 1-2 and 4-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang. (Action at pages 6-8). The rejections are traversed.

Applicants submit that *prima facie* obviousness is not established since Chang does not teach recited features by each of the independent claims including, using claim 1, as amended, as an example, "extracting structure data as a search item of the document including transaction slip data therefrom; (and) storing the structure data extracted by said data extracting unit as management data that is correlated with the transaction slip data. (emphasis added)."

Chang also does not teach a converting so a "first format of the received transaction slip data is useable by an order issuer and the second format based on a transmission destination is useable by an order acceptor in an electronic business transaction between the order issuer and the order acceptor without requiring a tailoring of servers of the order issuer and the order acceptor (emphasis added)."

Chang merely teaches (see, for example, col. 7, starting at line 45) a converting of "UDFs 144 convert XML files into a storage format with predefined attribute values, storing XML documents internally within the DB2.RTM."

That is, Chang merely teaches taking out data contained in an XML document, and converting the data into that of a database-storage format and conducting a search of the data thus taken out.

Summary

Since features recited by claims 1-2 and 4-14 are not discussed by the cited art, the rejection should be withdrawn and claims 1-2 and 4-14 allowed.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

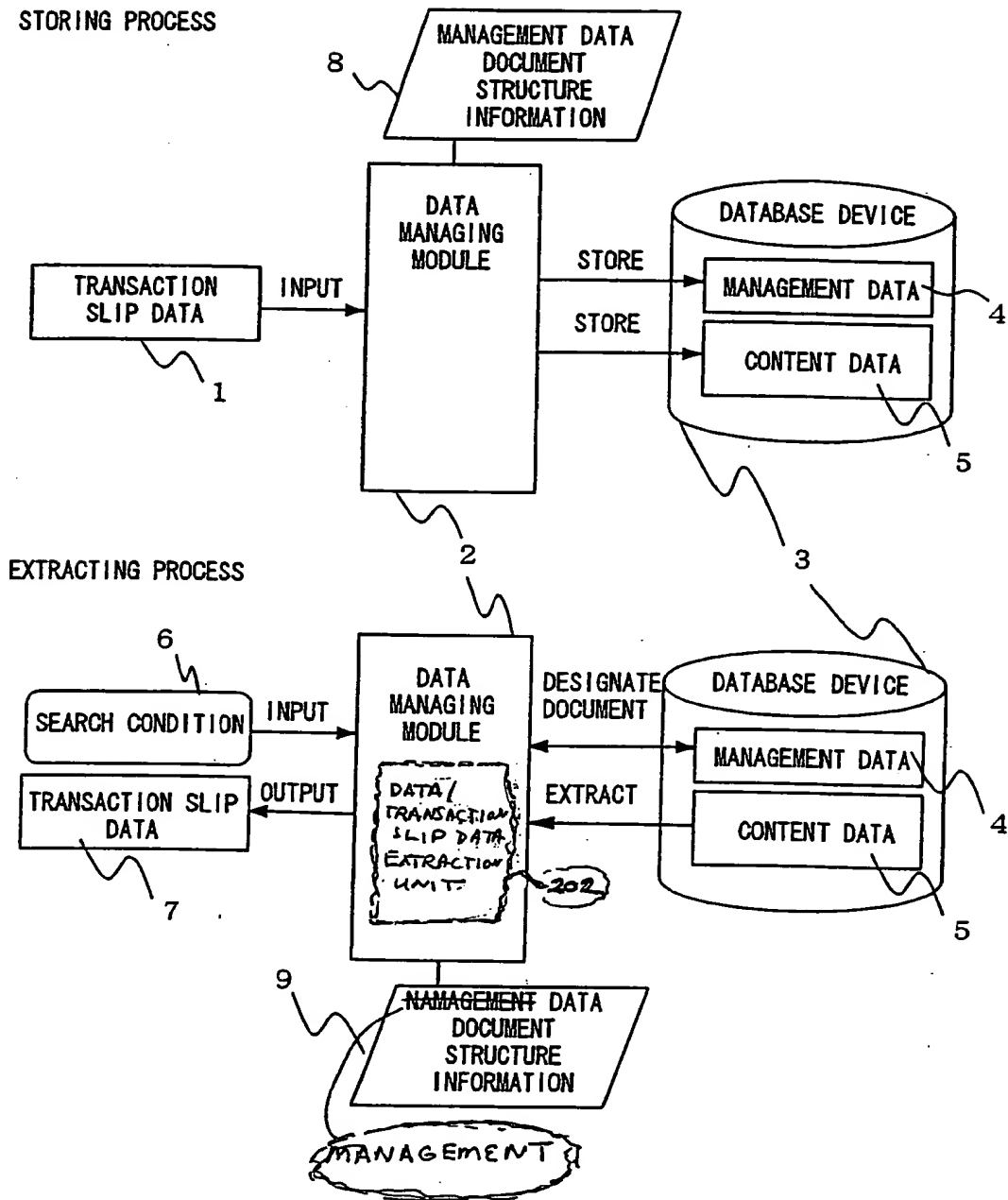
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ANNOTATED SHEET





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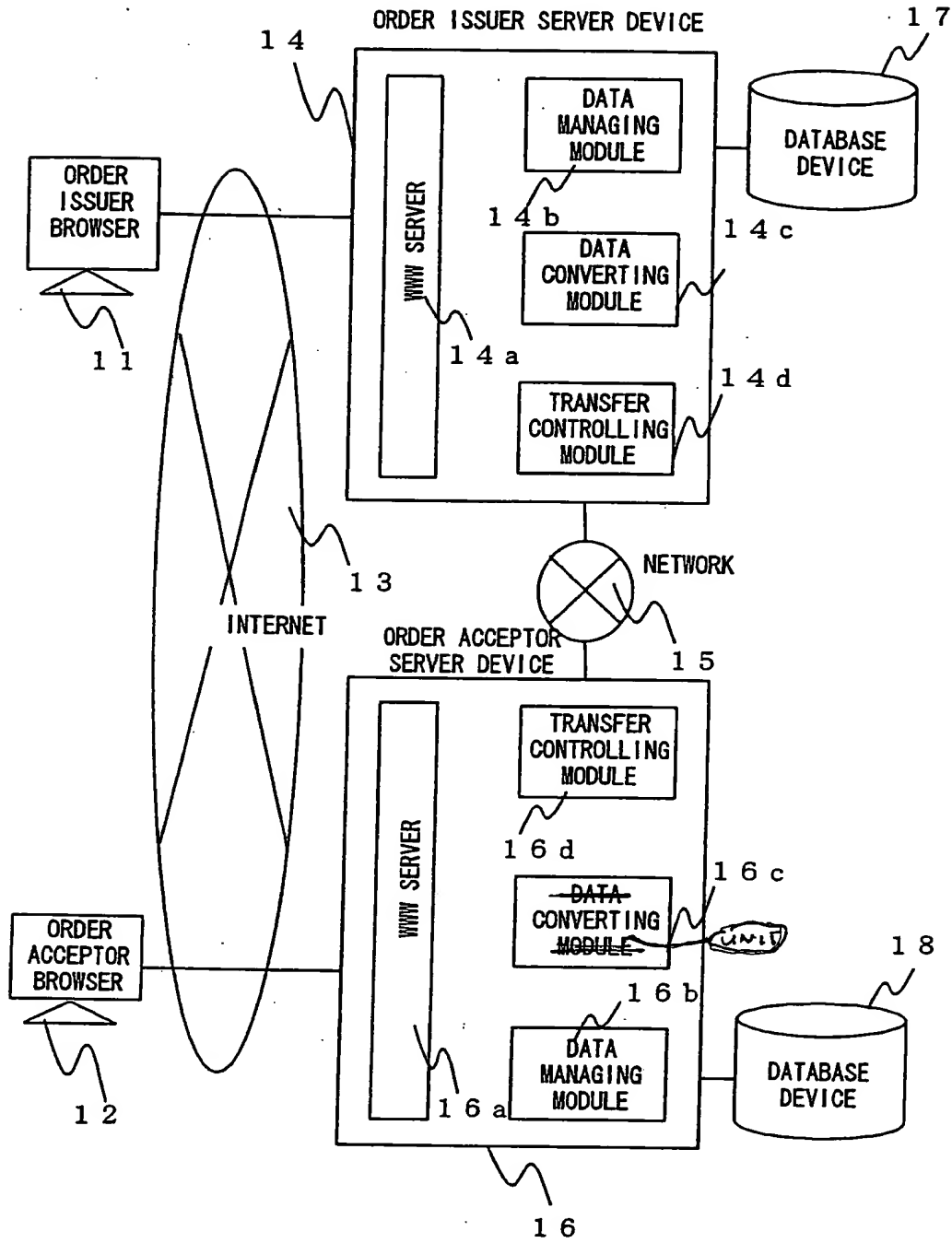


FIG. 7



ANNOTATED SHEET

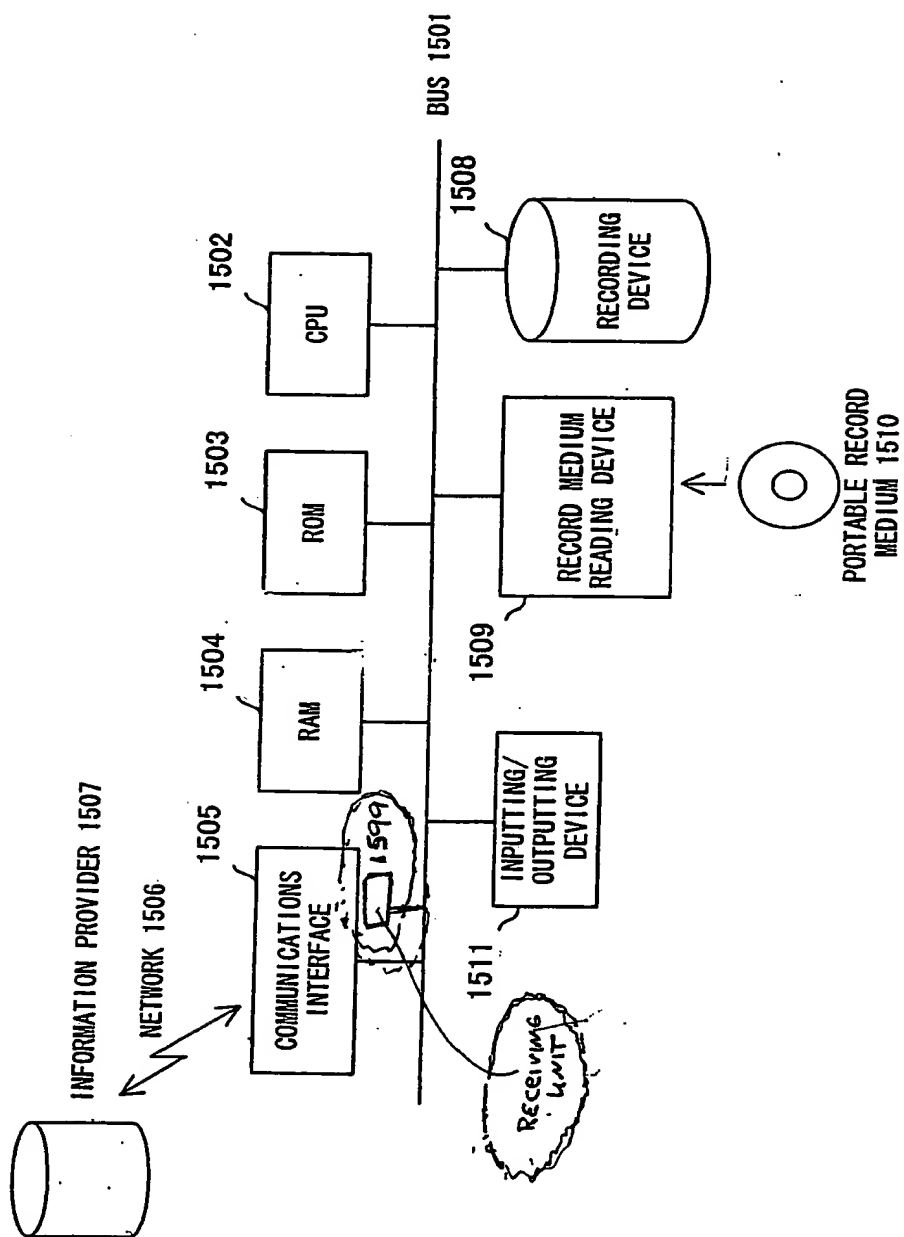


FIG. 16